

July 14, 2005

News Release

BERLIN MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO USING INTERNET TO POSSESS CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

BOSTON—Kevin J. O'Connor, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that John N. Marshall, 42, of 14 Canoe Birch Court, Berlin, Conn., pleaded guilty today to a charge of possession of child pornography that had been transmitted over the Internet. United States District Judge Christopher F. Droney accepted Marshall's plea of guilty this morning in Hartford.

According to statements made by the Government in court today, Marshall used the Internet to attempt to obtain images of child pornography. Federal agents traced the email traffic to Marshall and, on May 5, 2004, agents seized Marshall's laptop computer from his car at his place of business, Hartford Boiler Repair Works at 44 Cody Street, West Hartford, and also searched his home in Berlin. Agents thereafter searched Marshall's laptop computer and determined that it contained numerous images of child pornography. Some of the images depicted prepubescent girls being subjected to sexual abuse.

Judge Droney has scheduled sentencing for September 20, 2005, at which time Marshall faces a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years and a fine of up to \$250,000.

"The federal government is committed to investigating and prosecuting those who use the Internet to obtain images of children being sexually abused," U.S. Attorney O'Connor stated.

The case is being investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service and the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Assistant U.S. Attorney John A. Danaher III is prosecuting the case.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.

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